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JAN 06 2004  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS & TRADEMARKS

2856

Appl. No. 10/018,157  
Amdt. Dated December 31, 2003  
Reply to Office action of October 3, 2003

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/018,157  
Applicant : Carine Van Hille et al.  
Filed : December 6, 2001  
Title : SAMPLING DEVICE

TC/A.U. : 2856  
Examiner : Robert R. Raevis  
Docket No. : 34110

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendments  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TC 2800 MAIL ROOM

**AMENDMENT A**

Sir:

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office action dated October 3, 2003 (Paper No. 5).

The three month period for responding to the Office action expires on January 3, 2004.

Please amend the above-identified application in the following manner.

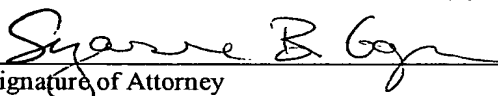
Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Suzanne B. Gagnon

Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)

  
Signature of Attorney

12-31-2003  
Date